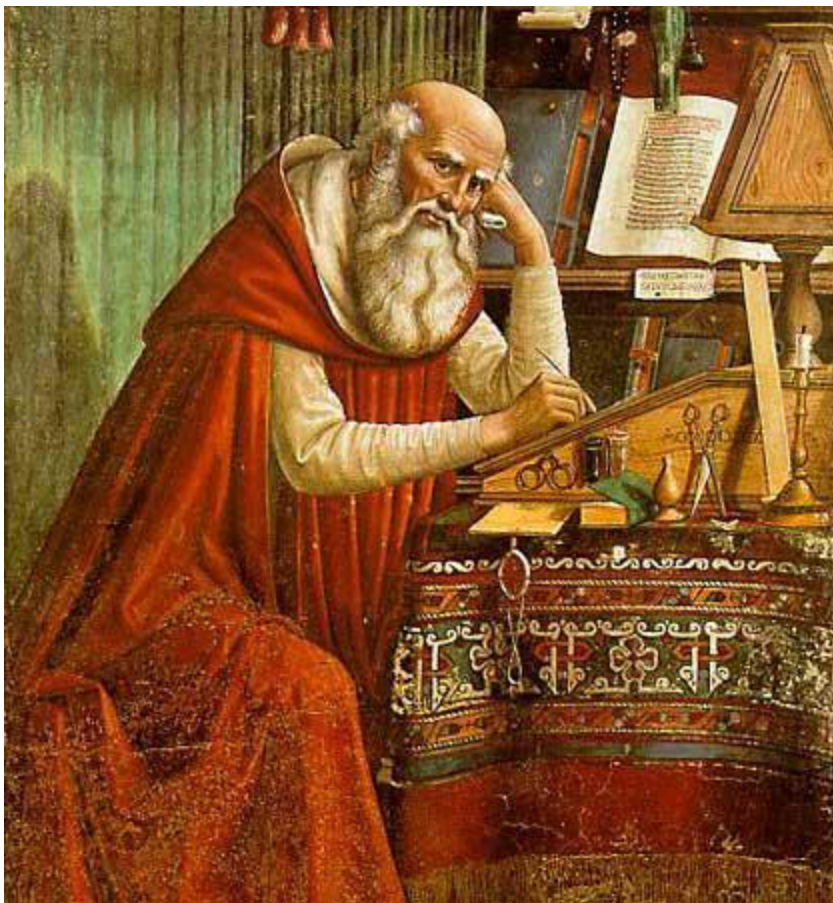


Commemoration of Jerome

September 27, 2026



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

25 W. Springettsbury Ave., York, PA 17403

Church Office 717-843-8155 Email: st.paulsyork@comcast.net

Website: www.stpaulspreschoolyork.com

Facebook: St. Paul's Lutheran Church York PA on Springettsbury & George

YouTube: St. Paul's Lutheran Church - South George St. York

WELCOME Thank you for being with us.

We are a Christian church within the Lutheran tradition (Evangelical Lutheran Church of America) and we welcome people of all Christian traditions as well as people of other faiths and people of little or no faith. Christian worship has been offered to God in this congregation for 190 years. By worshipping with us today, you become part of that living tradition.

Offerings Offerings are received during the liturgy. They are presented along with gifts of bread and wine at the altar. You may also donate via our website at www.stpaulsyork.org or use the QR Code provided.

An AED/Defibrillator unit is located in the Good Shepherd room. It is placed on the wall left side of the Springettsbury door exit.

Restrooms are available in the Good Shepherd Room (Springettsbury Ave) and the narthex (George St). Baby changing stations are provided in these restrooms as well as in the nursery.

The Nursery is accessed through the front right double doors. The liturgy is live-streamed into the Nursery. Parents are asked to stay with their children. Quiet activities are also available in the Narthex for infant through preschool children to use with an adult.

Parents, please accompany your child to the restroom during the liturgy and wait with them. This is a way for us to practice good safety protocol within our building.



Lutheran Church in York, PA - St.
Paul's Lutheran...
stpaulsyork.org

*The altar flowers are presented to the Glory of God
In memory of Anna Glessner*

STAFF		
Pastor	Rev. Stanley Reep	st.paulsyork@comcast.net
Visitation Pastor	Rev. Doctor Dan Yeiser	st.paulsyork@comcast.net
Youth Director	Kelly Moore-Spencer	kmoorespencer.stpaulsyork@comcast.net
Organist, Choir Director	Victor Fields	vfields.stpaulsyork@comcast.net
Bell Choirs Director	Leah McComas	lmccomas.stpaulsyork@gmail.com
Children's Choir Director	Julianna Jones	jjones.stpaulsyork@comcast.net
Secretary	Patee Pizzirusso	st.paulsyork@comcast.net
Sexton	Ted Weikert	tweikert.stpaulsyork@gmail.com
Preschool Director	Deb Becker	presch.stpaulsyork@comcast.net

Commemoration of Jerome

September 27, 2026

Holy Communion 9:30 AM

Musical Setting 3 Evangelical Lutheran Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stewardship Emphasis: *Called for Instruction*

PRELUDE

Teach Me, O Lord, Your Holy Way

Norman Gilbert

Stand turning to face the Baptismal font.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

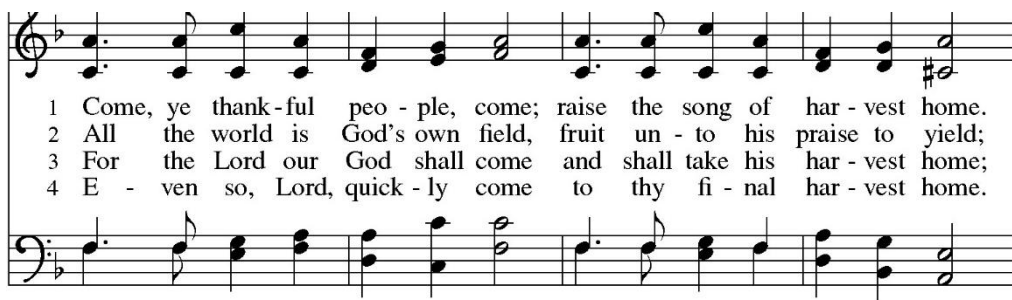
Amen

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

ENTRANCE HYMN

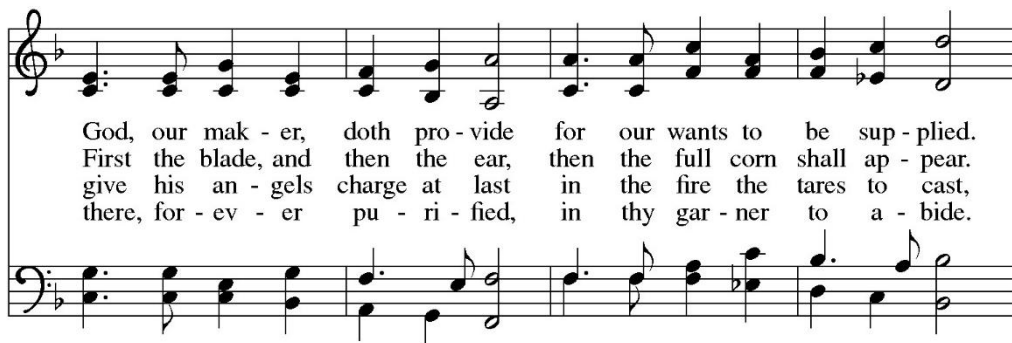
Come, Ye Faithful People, Come (ELW 693)



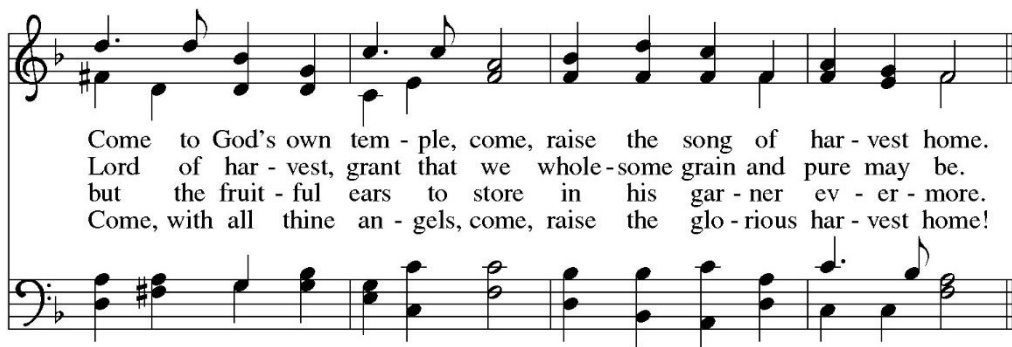
1 Come, ye thank-ful peo - ple, come; raise the song of har - vest home.
 2 All the world is God's own field, fruit un - to his praise to yield;
 3 For the Lord our God shall come and shall take his har - vest home;
 4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come to thy fi - nal har - vest home.



All be safe - ly gath - ered in ere the win - ter storms be - gin.
 wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, un - to joy or sor - row grown.
 from his field shall in that day all of - fens - es purge a - way;
 Gath - er then thy peo - ple in, free from sor - row, free from sin,



God, our mak - er, doth pro - vide for our wants to be sup - plied.
 First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap - pear.
 give his an - gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
 there, for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, in thy gar - ner to a - bide.



Come to God's own tem - ple, come, raise the song of har - vest home.
 Lord of har - vest, grant that we whole - some grain and pure may be.
 but the fruit - ful ears to store in his gar - ner ev - er - more.
 Come, with all thine an - gels, come, raise the glo - rious har - vest home!

APOSTOLIC GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, your Holy Spirit gives to one the word of wisdom, and to another the word of knowledge, and to another the word of faith. We praise you for the gifts of grace imparted to your servant Jerome, and we pray that by *his/her* teaching we may be led to a fuller knowledge of the truth which we have seen in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Sit

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST LESSON

Proverbs 3:1-7

back cover

PSALM

Psalm 119: 89-104

sung unaccompanied cantor/congregation

⁸⁹ O LORD, your word is | everlasting,*
it stands firm | in the heavens.

⁹⁰ **Your faithfulness remains from one generation | to another;***
you established the earth, and | it abides.

⁹¹ By your decree these continue | to this day,*
for all things | are your servants.

⁹² **If my delight had not been | in your law,***
I should have perished in | my affliction.

⁹³ I will never forget | your commandments,*
because by them you | give me life.

⁹⁴ **I am yours--oh, that | you would save me!--***
for I study | your commandments.

⁹⁵ Though the wicked lie in wait for me | to destroy me,*
I will apply my mind to | your decrees.

⁹⁶ **I see that all things come | to an end,***
but your commandment | has no bounds.

⁹⁷ Oh, how I | love your law!*

All the day long it is | in my mind.

⁹⁸ **Your commandment has made me wiser | than my enemies,***
and it is | always with me.

⁹⁹ I have more understanding than | all my teachers,*
for your decrees | are my study.

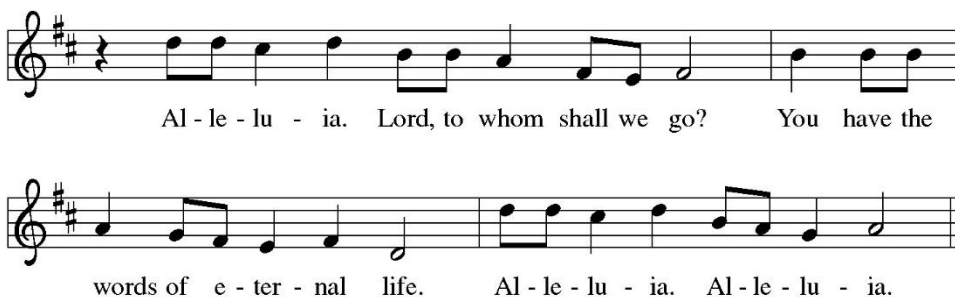
¹⁰⁰ **I am wiser | than the elders,***
because I observe | your commandments.

- ¹⁰¹ I restrain my feet from every | evil way,*
that I may | keep your word.
- ¹⁰² **I do not shrink | from your judgments,***
because you your- | self have taught me.
- ¹⁰³ How sweet are your words | to my taste!*
- They are sweeter than honey | to my mouth.
- ¹⁰⁴ **Through your commandments I gain | understanding;***
therefore I hate every | lying way.

SECOND LESSON 1 Corinthians 2:6-10, 13-16 *back cover*

Stand

ALLELUIA



HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 13:47-52

(back cover)

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew

Glory to you, O Lord.

At the conclusion of the Gospel.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

SERMON

Pastor Stanley Reep

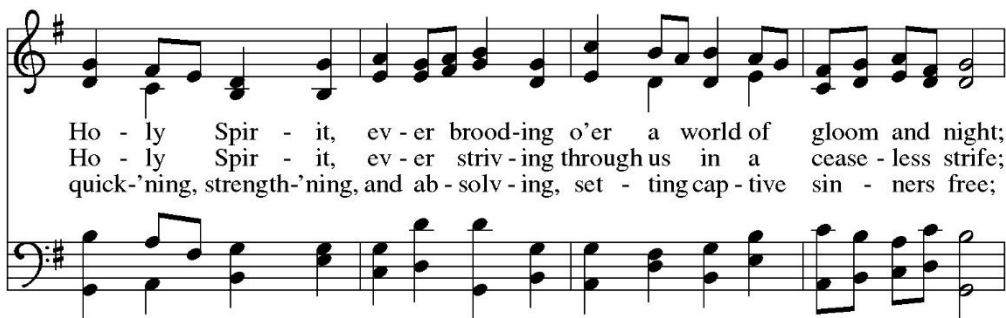
Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY

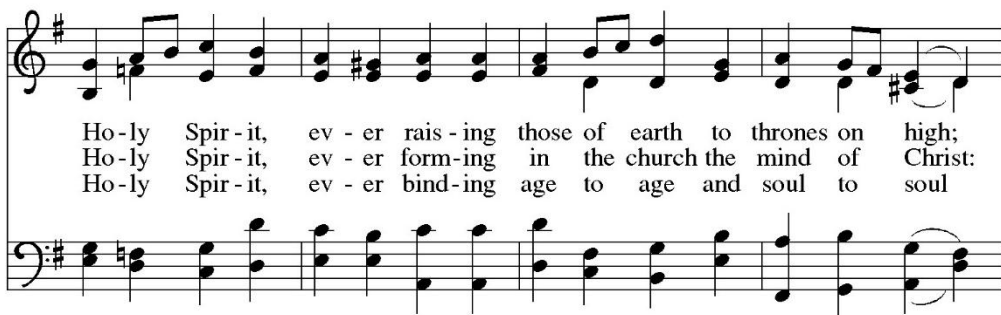
Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling (ELW 582)



1 Ho-ly Spir-it, ev - er dwell-ing in the ho - liest realms of light;
2 Ho-ly Spir-it, ev - er liv - ing as the church's ver - y life;
3 Ho-ly Spir-it, ev - er work-ing through the church's min - is - try;



Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er brood-ing o'er a world of gloom and night;
Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er striv-ing through us in a cease - less strife;
quick-'ning, strength-'ning, and ab - solv - ing, set - ting cap - tive sin - ners free;



Ho-ly Spir-it, ev - er rais - ing those of earth to thrones on high;
Ho-ly Spir-it, ev - er form-ing in the church the mind of Christ;
Ho-ly Spir-it, ev - er bind-ing age to age and soul to soul



liv - ing, life - im - part - ing Spir - it, you we praise and mag - ni - fy.
you we praise with end - less wor - ship for your gifts and fruits un - priced.
in com - mu - nion nev - er end - ing, you we wor - ship and ex - tol.

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**
**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.**
Through him all things were made.
**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin
Mary, and was made man.**
**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**
**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**
**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**
**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.**
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

A brief silence is kept.

We pray for the church. In help us strive to follow in your way. Help us listen to the cries of those who have been unfairly and teach us to act in loving kindness. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for your creation. Lead us into sustainable practices and respect for your handiwork. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for those in positions of authority. Remind them of their call to use their authority for the sake of the common good.. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for those in need. Calm troubled hearts with your forgiveness. Help all those in need (*especially*). Grant us your salvation. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for our congregation. Open us to courageous learning and service in our community, especially in new or challenging places. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We give thanks for all the saints who have finished their work and are at rest. As we grieve, remind us of your mercy so we may also give thanks. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils that surround them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be, Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of unity and peace, in baptism you have made us one people in the body of your Son. Hear us, as with one voice we offer you these prayers in the name of Jesus, who is Lord forever and ever. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

The ministers and congregation greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Sit

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

Mabel Tang, Violin

Ornament of Grace

Bernard Sanders

Stand

OFFERTORY



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the
brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

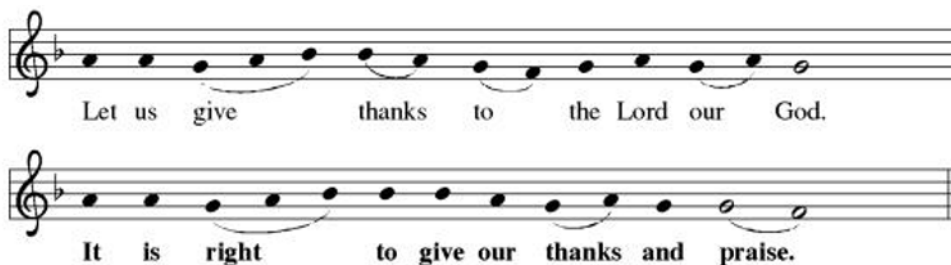
Let us pray. Merciful Father,

we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

DIALOGUE *Sung by Pastor and congregation*



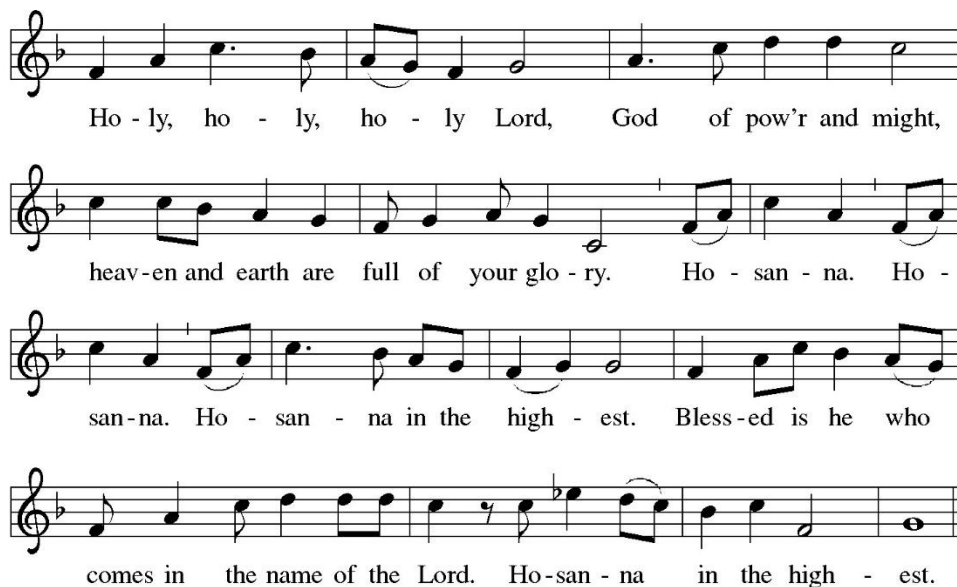
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.



PREFACE *The preface appropriate to the day is said.*

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



THANKSGIVING

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion we may know the unity we share with all your people in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen**
Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

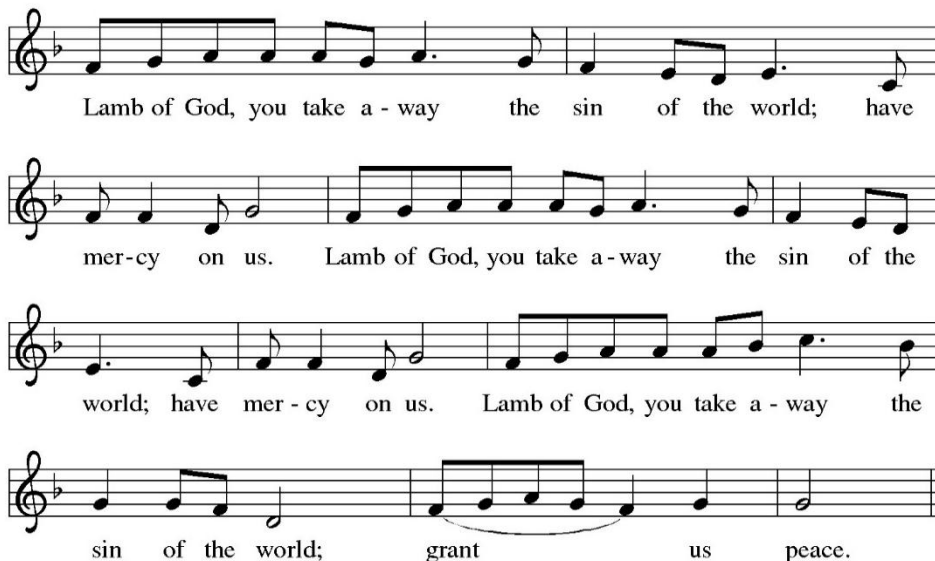
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

FRACTION RITE

When we eat this bread, we share the body of Christ. When we drink this cup, we share the blood of Christ.

**Reveal yourself to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread,
as once you revealed yourself to your disciples.**

AGNUS DEI



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sin of the world; grant us peace.

Sit

COMMUNION OF THE FAITHFUL

Our Communion is “open” to all believers who trust that the Risen Christ is present for his people in the Holy Eucharist. We receive communion by common loaf and pouring chalice.

Procedure for receiving Communion:

1. Come to communion using the center aisle.
2. Take a communion glass from the tray of glasses.
3. Take your place along the chancel step.
4. The ministers will bring the bread and wine to you.
5. Place the used cup in an empty tray located on a credence table at the side aisle.
6. Return to your pew using the side aisle

COMMUNION HYMN

Voices Raised to You (ELW 845)



1 Voic - es raised to you we of - fer; tune them, God, for
2 All cre - a - tion joins to praise you; earth and sky your
3 Christ, the song of love in - car - nate, touch - ing earth with
4 Spir - it, flam - ing through cre - a - tion, kin - dle faith with -
5 How can an - y praise we of - fer mea - sure all the



songs of praise. Hearts and hands we bring in trib - ute
works dis - play. Art and mu - sic, gifts you lend us,
heav - en's grace, for your liv - ing, suf - f'ring, dy - ing,
in each heart. Lift our voic - es high in cho - rus;
thanks we owe? Take our hearts and hands and voic - es—



for your gifts through all our days. Al - le - lu - ia!
we re - turn to you to - day. Al - le - lu - ia!
for your ris - ing, hear our praise! Al - le - lu - ia!
through our hands your love im - part. Al - le - lu - ia!
gifts of love we can be - stow. Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Tri - une God, to you we sing!
Al - le - lu - ia! God, cre - a - tor, source of life!
Al - le - lu - ia! Christ, re - deem - er, Lord of life!
Al - le - lu - ia! Spir - it, help - er, breath of life!
Al - le - lu - ia! Tri - une God, to you we sing!

Stand

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, Holy Spirit, Bless you now and forever. **Amen**

HYMN

Jesus, the Very Thought of You (ELW 754)

1 Je - sus, the ver - y thought of you fills us with sweet de - light;
2 No voice can sing, no heart can frame, nor can the mind re - call
3 O Hope of ev - 'ry con - trite soul, O Joy of all the meek,
4 O Je - sus, be our joy to - day; help us to prize your love;

but sweet-er far your face to view and rest with - in your light.
a sweet-er sound than your blest name, O Sav - ior of us all!
how kind you are to those who fall! How good to those who seek!
grant us at last to hear you say: "Come, share my home a - bove."

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sit

POSTLUDE

Fugue in C minor

J. S. Bach

This Week at St. Paul's

Church office open Tues–Thurs 8:00 AM—3:30 PM, Friday 8-11:30 AM

Sunday, September 27 9:00 AM Fellowship – Good Shepherd Rm 9:00 AM Chancel choir rehearsal – Music RM 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist – Live Stream 10:45 AM Faith Formation – for all 10:45 AM Confirmation Class – Lower level classroom 3:00 PM Organ recital, Victor Fields 6:30 PM AA Meeting-Community Rm Monday, September 28 6:00 PM Christian Ed Mtg – Youth Rm. 7:00 PM Mutual Ministry Tuesday, September 29 9:30 AM Food Pantry 6:00 PM CREATE – Preschool-Gr 6 6:00 PM Bible Study - Christ Hall	Wednesday, September 30 10:00 AM Preschool with Pastor – Nave 10:30 AM Bible Study – Christ Hall Thursday, October 1 10:00 AM Preschool with Pastor – Nave 6:30 PM Handbell Choir 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Sunday, October 4 9:00 AM Fellowship – Good Shepherd Rm 9:00 AM Chancel choir rehearsal – Music RM 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist – Live Stream 10:45 AM Faith Formation – for all 10:45 AM Confirmation Class – Lower level classroom 6:30 PM AA Meeting-Community Rm
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Serving the Lord with Gladness									
DATE	TIME	Asst Min	Crucifer	Comm Asst	Lector	Greeters	Ushers	Altar Guild	Bread Bakers
9/27	9:30 AM	Patty Snyder	Tim Yakim	Allison Lehr	Janet Moore	Joe & Jennifer Guarriello	Team 2E: Ron Riese, Kathy Monk, Ken Hinkle, Alex Bastian	Larry & Janet Moore	Joe Guarriello
10/4	9:30 AM	Tristan Ericson	Larry Moore	John Monk	Deb Becker	June Heistand, Alexis Heistand	Team 2L: Kem Vaught, Gail Kerchner, Sandy Dickensheets	Deb Becker, Isabella Lehr	Johanna Patterson

The 9:30 AM Sunday Worship time followed by Education (Sunday school) at 10:45 AM will extend through the end to the calendar year.

St. Paul's Food Pantry Needs: White Rice, Cereal, plastic and paper shopping bags. Monetary donations can be placed in a special envelope marked “Pantry”. Contact Teresa Rohrbaugh to volunteer for Tuesday distribution days. Contact Patty Snyder to volunteer for Thursday delivery days or Sunday stocking days or contact the church office. Thank you to all who help! Women's Group Meeting, Sunday, October 18 at 8:30 AM | Room 108

Join us for our next Women's Group meeting on Sunday, October 18. at 8:30 AM | Rm 108
 We'll spend time in devotion, reflect on past activities—including our retreat—and begin planning events for the coming year. We hope you'll join us for this time of fellowship, reflection, and planning!

FIRST LESSON Proverbs 3:1-7

- ¹ My child, do not forget my teaching,
but let your heart keep my commandments,
² for length of days and years of life
and abundant welfare they will give you.
³ Do not let loyalty and faithfulness forsake you;
bind them around your neck;
write them on the tablet of your heart.
⁴ Then you will find favor and high regard
in the sight of God and of people.
⁵ Trust in the LORD with all your heart,
and do not rely on your own insight.
⁶ In all your ways acknowledge him,
and he will make straight your paths.
⁷ Do not be wise in your own eyes;
fear the LORD and turn away from evil.

SECOND LESSON 1 Corinthians 2:6-10, 13-16

- ⁶ Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are being destroyed. ⁷ But we speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory ⁸ and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹ But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"—
¹⁰ God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹³ And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.
¹⁴ Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. ¹⁵ Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.
¹⁶ "For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?"
But we have the mind of Christ.

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 13:47-52

- ⁴⁷ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸ when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰ and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.
⁵¹ "Have you understood all this?"
They answered, "Yes." ⁵² And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

St Paul's collects clothing for **Union Lutheran Church's Clothing Ministry** and your help is requested. Union collects 'gently used' clothing (and shoes) for its clothing closet and offers it **free of charge** to needy families in the York City community. A bin has been placed in the Good Shepherd room to collect any clothing you would like to donate. These donations will surely be a blessing to our neighbors. Union's volunteers are very appreciative of our cooperation and our help. If you have large donations you may take them directly to Union Lutheran Church. Simply call them to arrange a time.

Calling all crocheters and knitters. Last November we gave out over 200 scarves to our pantry shoppers. It's time to start making scarves again for November 2026. The only suggestion is that scarves are about 4 ½ - 5 feet long and about 6 inches wide. When you finish a few scarves, put them in the pantry shopping cart in the Good Shepherd Room with your name on the bag. We extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to everyone who provided the amazing scarves. Let's see if we can surpass last year's number!



This year the Blessing of the Scarves will be held on Sunday, November 8, prior to the distribution on November 10.

The Unitarian Church on S. George St. supplies our pantry with fresh vegetables. They are asking for help in their garden. If you can donate some of your time to help please contact Steve Converse at 717-577-6696.

Confirmation Ministry: With the extended 9:30 AM worship time through year's end the Christian Education Committee, in consultation with the parents of confirmation students, class will now meet on Sunday morning from 10:45-11:45 AM. The class will be held on the Lower level in Room 004.

Sunday School for Children: The children will gather for class following the 9:30 AM liturgy on the Lower level in Room 005. This space should accommodate our larger class size. Children may proceed directly following worship. Snacks will be available in the Lower level outside rooms 004 and 005 (but not 007!).

Concert, TODAY Sunday, September 27 Victor Fields, organ 3:00pm

Come and hear St. Paul's organist present a recital of music for organ and instruments with Mabel Tang, violin, Jeffrey Phelps, cello featuring selections by Bach, Dupré, Franck and The King of Instruments, A Parade of Music and Verse for Organ and Narrator by William Albright featuring actor Jay Poff.

Music & Create begins September 15, 6:00 PM

Age 3 through grade 6

Welcome back to Music and Create! We are looking forward to this opportunity for our families with young children to engage in music, art, and Bible stories while also having the opportunity to connect with other families. The program is designed for children ages 3 through grade 6. We divide the children into two age groups, age 3 through grade 1 and grade 2 through grade 6.

Do you love to sing? Our CHANCEL choir needs you!

We are looking for joyful voices to help lead worship this year. No prior experience is required—just a willing heart. Tenors and Basses especially needed!!

If you would like to lend your voice for a Sunday or two, or more, a sign-up sheet to designate when you can help is available on the stand in the Good Shepherd room.

- Rehearsals: Thursdays at 7:30-8:30 PM and Sunday at 9:00 AM prior to worship
- Contact: Victor Fields, vfields.stpaulsyork@comcast.net or see him at church

Called for Service, Peace, Instruction & Renewal the theme for the 2026/27 stewardship emphasis highlights four aspects of our baptismal life.

Stewardship Emphasis – Next week we observe the Commemoration of St. Francis of Assisi. The readings are Micah 6:6-8, Psalm 9:1-0, Galations 6:14-18, Matthew 11:25-30. We will have Bible Study on Tuesday evening at 6:00 PM and Wednesday morning at 10:30 AM.

A Partnership Between Local Churches & LifePath Thrift

Stores Please remember to donate your no longer needed items to LifePath Thrift Stores. The stores then return a portion of the value of these items in the form of gift cards to our church to help those directly in our care. Donate at three locations: 2414 Eastern Boulevard, 283 West Market Street, and in the South York Plaza. Give them the name and address of our church. Donors are still able to take advantage of the tax-deduction with every gift to LifePath Thrift Stores.



Commemoration, Jerome, Translator and teacher

Proverbs 3:1-7

1 Corinthians 2:6-10, 13-16

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Have you understood all this? Asked Jesus of his disciples. They answered, “Yes.”

They have heard Jesus tell seven parables about the kingdom of heaven. Jesus asked them if they have understood about the Sower sowing seeds, weeds growing among the wheat, the mustard seed growing into a huge shrub, yeast added in with ordinary flour, treasure in a field, a merchant in search of one exquisite pearl, a net catching fish of every kind. They respond “Yes.”

For some of the parables Jesus has provided expansive explanation. For others he simply told them and let them stand on their own. The parables are told for people to hear. Jesus wanted hearers to listen. What conclusions will they draw? This morning we hear Jesus bluntly ask the disciples, “*Have you understood all this?*” They answered, “Yes.”

St. Jerome, commemorated on this day, helped the young church (4th century) to proclaim and hear the story of God’s divine kingdom. His goal was to assist followers of Jesus to grasp something of what is entailed in following Jesus. I suppose he wanted us to be able to answer “Yes” when asked if we understand the teaching of Jesus.

Jerome became a follower of Jesus, was baptized at age 18 and began what would become a life of service to Christ and the Church. Jerome was a translator of biblical texts and scribe who wrote commentary on them. His work aided followers of Jesus to make sense of not only the parabolic teachings of Jesus, but the law and prophets, the gospels and the letters of Paul. Jerome was so engaged with the written word that he withdrew from public life, was a hermit, and devoted his life to writing so that others could understand. He wanted the “new” disciples of Jesus, to respond to the question Jesus posed with a robust “Yes.”

Jerome aided the church in grasping the importance of what came before the God of all creation taking on human form in Jesus. Jerome bore out the importance of what was old, what we think of as those things recorded in the Old Testament, and in making sense of what is new, current, revealed in Jesus. He was doing the work of a scribe, a disciple in God’s kingdom, bringing out what is treasured, both the new and the old.

Treasured. There are many things that we treasure. Rating them is not something that we regularly do. But beyond God’s love in Christ, for me it is my family and relationships and experiences, after that the list begins to flatten out with material positions. As I have aged the material positions that I value change. I will not embarrass myself by sharing publicly what I once valued.

One material possession that I value is a wooden dry sink. It is 30 inches wide, 38 inches high, and 18 inches deep. To the discerning eye it is not much to gaze upon. It has two tall thin doors with ordinary pulls. The top has a simple scalloped rail on the back and both sides to keep things from being accidentally pushed off. The interior shelves are constructed with odd boards. Since it has come into my possession, I have consistently used it. In an efficiency apartment in seminary, it held dishes. At other times it has housed a collection of hymnals. Most recently it cradled photo albums documenting life, children, friendships, travel, and flowers.

Without the eye of St. Jerome, the dry sink might well be the first thing discarded after my demise. Knowing its story might have an impact so much that it may be spared, saved,

treasured by my children and perhaps even their children.

The dry sink sat in my grandparents' sunporch. On the bottom shelf was a basket of plastic cloths pins; aqua, pale yellow, pink and green, which my grandmother "Gerty" used on wash day to pin up the clothes on the line. As a young child I remember sitting on the floor and building with them. Above me perched on the windowsills were rows of African violets that my grandfather tended. The dry sink was built by my grandfather "Pops." He made it out of walnut which was milled from a large tree taken from my other grandparent's farm. It was the walnut tree from which a swing was suspended, a swing where my mother whiled away hours, protected from the hot sun, enjoying a breeze through her hair, and where laughter punctuated life that was most certainly difficult, challenging, a World War raging.

Now that I have shared the story, if an occasion arises you may look upon the dry sink, now residing in our dining room, with a new appreciation. You may even treat it with gentleness befitting a treasure. But my real hope is that my children will know the story, value it, and cling to it in a way that brings the past into the present allowing for a deeper understanding and appreciation of who we are and where we have come from and how relationship defines us.

Jerome wanted us to make connections with what is old and what is new. He wanted us to experience the treasure. His work and witness were to have ordinary people appreciate and make sense of Our Lord suspended on the hard wood of the cross. He knew that life was difficult, challenging, raging wars permeated humanity, but upon the cross Jesus died, was buried, and was raised up on the third day addressing once for all the destructive power of death. Through Christ Jesus, forgiveness is granted so that his message is proclaimed freeing us for living life in love of neighbor.

Certainly, life remains difficult, challenging, wars continue to rage, but Jesus is with us. The story began long ago. The story is told granting protection and addressing the difficult, challenging, aggressive behaviors of humankind. Such behaviors are curbed by the teaching and commandments of God. For with them we are told of length of days, years of life, and abundant welfare given you. *Remain loyal and faithful and God will make straight your paths* pens the writer of Proverbs. These things may sound like the *hidden mystery which God decreed before the ages*, mystery that the Apostle Paul communicated to the church in Corinth. Such connections keep us drawing deeply from the past action of God and leading us in the present by God, the Holy Spirit. I believe Jerome's real desire, his hope as translator and teacher, is that we, as God's children will know the story, value it, and cling to it in a way that brings the past into the present allowing for a deeper understanding and appreciation of not only who we are, and who our neighbor is, but of God's unwavering presence with us.

Have you understood all this? Asked Jesus of his disciples. They answered, "Yes." Amen.